

REMARKS

The Official Action of 3 May 2005 has been carefully considered and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Sequence Listing has been amended to remove the basis for the objection at paragraphs 3-4 of the Official Action. The specification has been amended to remove the basis for the objection at paragraph 7 of the Official Action.

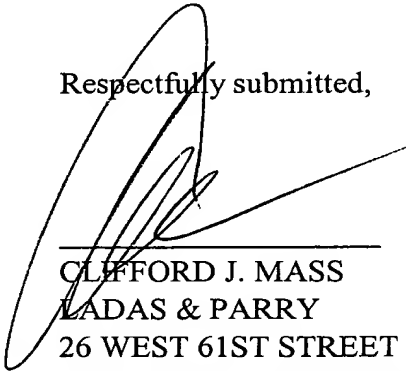
The claims have been amended to remove the bases for the objections and rejections appearing at paragraphs 8, 10 and 14-17 of the Official Action. With specific respect to the rejections at paragraphs 10 and 14-17, the relevant claims that were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph (claims 25-26) and over the art cited in paragraphs 14-17 (claims 2, 5-8, 10-14 and 25-26) have been canceled. The cited art has not been applied against the subject matter of the remaining claims, and it is thus understood that these claims are considered to be free of the prior art. With specific respect to the objection at paragraph 8, claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form to remove the basis for the objection.

With respect to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph appearing at paragraph 12 of the Official Action, Applicants submit herewith a Statement which provides the required promise for availability of the deposited microorganisms. It is respectfully submitted that this removes the basis for the rejection in accordance with the Examiner's

comments.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections of record have been overcome and that the application is now in allowable form. An early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited and is believed to be fully warranted.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clifford J. Mass', is written over a horizontal line.

CLIFFORD J. MASS
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